

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/733,206
Attorney Docket: 48332-0001
Reply to Office Action of September 19, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A preconstruction utility pedestal comprising:
 - an elongated support member defining an inner side and an outer side and having a top end and a bottom end.
 - a plate affixed on the inner side of said support member for attachment to a foundation wall for a building;
 - a first bracket substantially parallel to said plate disposed on said support member for mounting an electric meter at the top end of said support member so said electric meter faces toward said outer side;
 - an electric power outlet removably secured to said support member proximate to said first bracket and accessible from said outer side, said electric power outlet removably connectable to an electric meter; and
 - a second bracket substantially parallel to said first bracket for mounting a gas utility meter, said second bracket affixed to said support member intermediate of said plate and said first bracket, said second bracket comprising a first meter mounting portion and a second elongated portion extending substantially perpendicular to and extending away from said support member to space meter mounting portion from said electric power outlet and said first bracket to a predetermined distance, said predetermined distance comprising at least a minimum safe distance.
2. (ORIGINAL) The pedestal of claim 1 wherein said electric power outlet and said second bracket are disposed on opposite sides of said support member.

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/733,206
Attorney Docket: 48332-0001
Reply to Office Action of September 19, 2005

3. (ORIGINAL) The pedestal of claim 1 further comprising a third bracket disposed on and spaced inwardly and parallel to said second bracket, said third bracket for attachment to a stud wall of said building.

4. (ORIGINAL) The pedestal of claim 3 wherein said third bracket is spaced inwardly the width of a brick facia.

5. (CANCELED)

6. (ORIGINAL) The pedestal of claim 1 further comprising a second plate affixed to said support member for attachment to a foundation wall.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The pedestal of claim 1 further comprising indicia on the outer surface of said second bracket instructing removal of said electric power outlet before installation of a gas utility meter.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of providing metered utility service to a building during construction comprising:

mounting a pedestal to a foundation wall of said building by means of a plate affixed on said pedestal;

laying electric supply line and gas supply line in a single in-ground trench to said pedestal;

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/733,206
Attorney Docket: 48332-0001
Reply to Office Action of September 19, 2005

mounting to said pedestal an electric meter to said pedestal with a first bracket, said first bracket being substantially parallel to said plate;

removably mounting an electric power outlet to said pedestal and operatively connecting said electric power out to said electric meter;

operably connecting said electric supply line to said electric meter;

mounting a gas meter to said pedestal intermediate of said plate and said first bracket with a second bracket, said second bracket being substantially parallel to said plate, said second bracket comprising a first meter mounting portion and a second elongated portion extending substantially perpendicular to and extending away from said support member to space meter mounting portion from said electric power outlet and said first bracket to a predetermined distance, said predetermined distance comprising at least a minimum safe distance; and

operably connecting said gas supply line to said gas meter.

9. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 8 further comprising the step of disconnecting said electric outlet from said electric meter before operably connecting said gas supply line to said gas meter.

10. (ORIGINAL) The method claim 8 further comprising the step of affixing a notice to said pedestal providing instructions to disconnect said electric outlet before mounting said gas meter.

11. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 8 further comprising installing a brick facia on said foundation wall, anchoring said electric meter and gas meter thereto.

12. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 8 further comprising the step of laying telephone service supply line in said trench.

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/733,206
Attorney Docket: 48332-0001
Reply to Office Action of September 19, 2005

13. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 8 further comprising the step of laying a signal transmission line in said trench.

Claims 14-16 (CANCELED)

18. (NEW) The pedestal of claim 1 wherein said elongated support member comprises an open cavity, said open cavity being capable of receiving an electric supply line and a gas supply line.

19. (NEW) The pedestal of claim 2 wherein said elongated support member comprises an open cavity, said open cavity being capable of receiving an electric supply line and a gas supply line.

20. (NEW) The pedestal of claim 3 wherein said elongated support member comprises an open cavity, said open cavity being capable of receiving an electric supply line and a gas supply line.

21. (NEW) The pedestal of claim 5 wherein said elongated support member comprises an open cavity, said open cavity being capable of receiving an electric supply line and a gas supply line.

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/733,206
Attorney Docket: 48332-0001
Reply to Office Action of September 19, 2005

22. (NEW) The pedestal of claim 6 wherein said elongated support member comprises an open cavity, said open cavity being capable of receiving an electric supply line and a gas supply line.